

# SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC HERALD

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## THE TORTURES OF HELL IN A STEEL TRUST PLANT

Men Killed by the Heat of a Fiery Furnace and the Foreman  
Discharged Because he Showed Mercy

The campaign orators will soon begin to tell you that "Socialism means slavery," and that to "retain your freedom and independence" you must vote the Republican or Democratic ticket and continue to maintain our beautiful competitive system. You voting kings will be told again and again that you are free and unhampered individuals, who cannot be coerced or enslaved and that you have no masters! Read this, ye "freemen"!

The newspapers of Chicago have been printing some stories about a labor difficulty in the Illinois Steel Company's plant at South Chicago. Here is what the Tribune had to say about it this morning:

"The feeling of unrest among the employees of the Illinois Steel Company has now somewhat subsided. The crowd of men who gathered in South Chicago saloons on Thursday night and plotted mischief was not visible during the day, and the police expect no trouble for them. All dynamite owned by the company has been carefully guarded and its whereabouts is kept secret from the excited men. A strong force of private detectives and policemen is on guard at the mills, and the force in blast furnace No. 4, where the trouble on Wednesday night occurred, is under surveillance.

"There appears to be no dissatisfaction visible among the employees of the company who are not connected with the blast furnace, and the force of 300 policemen and detectives is considered well able to cope with the 40 men employed in the blast furnaces. All of these men are not disaffected, however.

"The rumor that several hundred men were imprisoned within the gates of the company for two days proves to be false. The men were kept inside the gates from Wednesday evening until 6 o'clock on Thursday morning without being given food, but they were allowed to leave after they had worked twelve hours.

Other papers tell of the "hot reception" that will be meted out to the "malcontents" in case they "attack the works."

One would think that a bunch of Chinese Boxers were in South Chicago waiting for a chance to burn the steel trust's mill and massacre all peaceful citizens.

Here is the story of the way the "trouble" started. It is the "other side." There is always "another side," but it seldom gets printed.

Listen to the other side:  
Jack Roedder is foreman of blast No. 4 at the steel trust's South Chicago plant. Under him was a big gang of men. Their work is the hardest and the hottest in all the great mill. Their wages are of the same generous proportions generally allotted to workmen by trusts.

On Wednesday, the Fourth of July, Independence day, the trust didn't celebrate. Instead it sent its white slaves into the furnace-like rooms and drove them on to toil.

The hot wave was on. The air was stifling. Other people, enjoying a holiday, could barely keep alive. The white slaves of the trust toiled on. Finally one fell to the hot floor, and then a second dropped like an ox in his place.

They were carted away to the trust's hospital, and there they died. They are John Leach of 9142 Mackinaw avenue and Andrew Cushman, 8500 Mackinaw avenue.

The other men in the gang gasped in agony, and finally Roedder could drive them no longer; he would drive them no longer.

"Get out into the air, boys," he cried. "Take a five-minute rest in the yard." Gratefully the men filed out, and then came Superintendent J. W. Maket. He called to Roedder angrily:

"Why aren't your men at work? What are they loafing there for?" Roedder explained that two men had been fatally prostrated and that the others could not stand the strain any longer. They would work overtime and make up the five-minute breathing spells.

"Get 'em to work," was the trust superintendent's answer. "We've got to get this work out, and never mind the men."

Roedder protested and was treated to instant dismissal. "Go to the office and get your time," shouted Maket.

Roedder went to the office, got his pay and made his way to the entrance in the great stockade—the stockade that surrounds the trust's plant and keeps everybody from seeing how the blood of men is coined into gold. Roedder went to the gate, and there he found twenty-four of his "boys" clustered like frightened sheep.

They were defying the trust! The great thing which they hated and feared and which they felt held their lives and the lives of their wives and babes in its cruel hands.

They were defying it, but they must show their love and appreciation for the man who dared to take their part. When Roedder walked out—discharged for being humane—twenty-four men walked out with him.

That was the strike. The detectives, perhaps, were called. Perhaps inside the stockade the cases of Winchesters were opened and boxes of cartridges broached. The Tribune says the trust's store of dynamite was double guarded.

What is the trust doing with dynamite? It won't tell.

City police, paid by taxpayers, were called to protect the trust's stockade against the twenty-five men.

The trust feared that the story might spread so, having gotten the twenty-five men out, the stockade gates were swung shut and workingmen were made prisoners for twenty-four hours, though, the trust explains, they were only compelled to work twelve hours. The imprisoned men got no food, but that was to teach them what to expect if they should decide to stand by the men who walked out with Roedder.

Within forty-eight hours at least fifteen men were prostrated by the heat in the works. None was allowed to go home or to send word outside the stockade. They were hauled to the trust's hospital.

That is what has happened at South Chicago.

There is no strike.

There is something else.

The noble and "independent American workman" is not a "wage slave." Oh, no! Only the deluded Socialists refer to him as such. The gifted and highly paid Republican and Democratic orator will give him the same old "jolly" about the "dignity of labor" and the "independence" of the laborer, and the intelligent working mule will forget the above if he reads it, and vote the ticket of his master next November.

Socialism would give the steel works and all other industries to the workers, and they could choose their own superintendent, and fix their own hours of labor, but that would be "slavery," you know! If you really want to be Free Men, vote for Eugene V. Debs and the Social Democratic party. F. R.

### INTERNATIONAL NOTES

The French Socialists and Trade Unionists have every reason to be gratified with the work performed by M. Millerand, the Socialist minister of commerce and industry, says Fred Brocklehurst in the Clarion. By the law Millerand-Collard of the 30th March last he has reduced the hours of labor to 11 per day in all establishments employing men and women, with the promise of further reduction to 10 per day four years hence. He has pleased the Council of Labor on a democratic basis, and nominated M. Jaures to a seat thereon. In his presidential address to the opening session he informed the members of the council that their duty would be that of furnishing authoritative information to the legislature, and of suggesting the line of progress in labor matters. In a speech delivered in the Chamber of Deputies a few days ago he declared that the dominant idea of his administration was the development of trade union organizations. The work people employed in the postoffice have passed resolutions thanking him for reducing their hours of labor, increasing their salaries and granting them other benefits and reforms. His latest act has been the establishment of baths for the telephonists, with the promise that if the plan succeeds they will be provided for postmen and other minor officials as well. This is a splendid record of service. It has disarmed the criticism of those of Millerand's colleagues in the chamber who originally opposed his acceptance of the portfolio of commerce and industry.

At a meeting of the British Electric Traction company, recently held, the chairman, Sir C. Rivers Wilson, stated that the company was concerned in the development of fifty-seven companies; fifty-three were for tramways and light railways, and probably some were undertaken for the supply of electric light and power. They had one omnibus company, one electric launch company, one company recently formed for developing land in the neighborhood of the electric works, and one electric power company. Of the 53 tramways and light railways 31 were in operation and working at a profit, six were in course of construction, and orders for 15 had been recently granted. The 31 in operation comprised a length of 200 miles. Of these 50% were worked by steam, 73% by horse, 62% by electric traction, and 19% were in process of conversion to electric traction. Six undertakings in course of construction measured over 30 miles, 15 new undertakings authorized would measure 104 miles, and when completed this company would be interested in or control 250 miles of tramway and light railway lines. The number of shareholders was 1,800 and debenture-holders 300.

Owing to the imperial censure upon the Russian press, and the difficulties which surround the spread of information respecting Democratic movements in the empire governed by the knout, we are only just getting to know what happened in Russia on May Day. In St. Petersburg, the workers' committee distributed 5,000 copies of a proclamation addressed to the working men of the city. Sixty persons were imprisoned for taking part in this act. Moscow and Kiev also issued proclamations inviting the workers to celebrate the first of May. The working men of Rostov, on the River Don, printed bills and pasted them on the walls demanding freedom of combination, the liberty of the press, electoral reforms, a universal eight-hours day, suppression of overtime, compulsory insurance, the liability of employers for accidents, etc. In Ekaterinosaw, the authorities prevented the holding of a demonstration by imprisoning a large number of persons. Fifteen thousand workers held a demonstration in Varsovie and came into collision with the troops. Demonstrations took place in other towns and many arrests were made.

Mr. Jaures has carried a resolution in the French Council of Labor in favor of a special study being made of the question of industrial arbitration. The Socialists in the Chamber of Deputies have carried a resolution in favor of compulsory arbitration. M. Jaures in a long article on the subject lays down the proposition that it is possible, even before we have overturned the capitalist regime, to reduce, or almost to reduce to vanishing point, the causes of conflicts between capital and labor. He says that arbitration substitutes the regime of discussion for the arbitrary power of capital.

The following are the professions of the Belgian Socialist deputies: Fifteen are workmen, three are barristers, two are professors, two are shopmen, two are managers of co-operative stores, two are schoolmasters, two are doctors, two are journalists, one is a foreman, and one is a manufacturer.

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## THE SPREAD OF SOCIALISM AMONG THE MIDDLE CLASS

The Pressure of Capitalist Development Forcing them to See  
the Terrible Injustice and Wrong of Present System

By a Chicago Business Man

At the present time ideas favorable to Socialism are rapidly spreading among that class of people which is usually known as the middle class. The cause of this is not far to seek. Keen competition, resulting in the concentration of all business enterprises in the hands of the few, has steadily and rapidly reduced the incomes of the middle class, until multitudes who once considered themselves wealthy and independent now find themselves, even in times of greatest business activity, reduced to a condition in which they are obliged to practice the most rigid economy in order to avoid becoming hopelessly in debt.

The effect of the great department stores upon the small retail business men is so well marked that it no longer excites comment. Miles of streets in the great cities are filled with vacant stores where formerly were prosperous retail dealers. And these stores either stand empty or are rented for purposes which enable the occupants to pay only a trivial rent. Capital is so plentiful, and there is so little advantageous use for it, that only the possessors of large fortunes can live upon the small amount of interest derived from their investments. In Chicago thirty years ago money easily brought 10 per cent per annum, where now it brings but 3 or 4 per cent. Small manufacturers are a thing of the past in all the staple industries, and with a very few exceptions only possessors of large capital can start in a manufacturing business with any hope of financial success.

The destruction wholly or in part of the incomes of the great middle class of business men and small real estate owners and investors disastrously affects professional men, doctors, dentists, preachers and the parasites of the middle class, diminishing their incomes and reducing them to poverty.

The smaller business men, being forced by competition to enter into trusts and other coalitions of capital, soon find themselves frozen out by their larger co-conspirators, and see their property swallowed up by those whose superior "business ability" enables them to do it.

Contemporaneously with this decline of the middle class has arisen the great capitalist, whose display of wealth makes the middle class man feel like a pauper. The palaces, yachts, establishments and unbounded luxury of the great capitalist tend to make the middle class man inquire into the means by which this great wealth was obtained; and it is often found that honest exertion, unaccompanied by fraud or wrongful oppression, was the least factor in its acquisition.

The arbitrary raising of prices on nearly all commodities, making the cost of living higher, has also greatly excited the middle class. The already dwarfed incomes of this class are thus still further lessened by this increase in the cost of living.

Notwithstanding this diminution of income of the middle class, taxation has greatly increased of late years. Ex-

travagance and corruption in government have greatly increased, and greater forces of police and militia have become necessary to preserve order. Useless wars are also being prosecuted, and nations are increasing their armies and navies to prevent each from flying at the throats of others in a struggle for commercial advantages. All this increases taxation.

All these causes have aroused the fears of the middle class; and with the arousal of their fears for their own future comes an aroused conscience. The members of this class now begin to see the terrible injustice and wrong, moral as well as economic, of the present capitalist system, and, casting about for a remedy, have had their attention called to Socialism.

Socialism, long a bugbear to the middle class when that class was prosperous, is now beginning to be looked upon by it as a means of rescuing the smaller bourgeoisie from threatened destitution. The works of Edward Bellamy, "Looking Backward" and "Equality," have been largely instrumental, in connection with changed economic conditions, in working this revolution of ideas among this class, although other books have also had an influence in that direction.

The writer's attention has lately been forcibly called to this spread of Socialist ideas among the middle class by certain experiences in the Eastern states. Riding for a day on a Pullman car, the writer met two gentlemen, one a lawyer and the other a merchant, who, of their own accord, began to advocate Socialism, and upon being informed that the writer had been a Socialist for many years, they expressed their satisfaction. Again, stopping at the house of a friend in a large Eastern city, the writer again encountered two gentlemen occupying responsible positions in large business concerns, both of whom announced themselves Socialists; and one of them stated that one of his employers also was an ardent Socialist. They further said that there were many others of their acquaintance, both men and women, who entertained the same ideas. Again, the writer met and talked to an eminent engineer, drawing a considerable salary, who spoke favorably of Socialism and expressed his hope of its realization. All these persons, except perhaps the one last mentioned, broached the subject without any suggestion from the writer.

The immense power of aggregated wealth threatening to completely control the nation, to abolish the middle class and reduce them to practical slavery seems to have excited almost beyond measure people who are even now well-to-do.

Political demagogues will in the present campaign use this fact to get votes for their respective parties. But neither the Republican nor the Democratic party has any weapons in its political armory which can possibly be used to combat the evils which threaten society from the great aggregations of wealth. Socialism alone has the only weapons which can be used for that purpose.

### Socialist Argument Irresistible

P. D. Bingen of Dallas, Texas, writes to the New York Journal on the extravagant rates paid for carrying the mail, and while denying that he is a Socialist, makes a point or two very clear. He says:

"I am not a Socialist; but a believer in individuality in government, the man above the state. Mr. Ingalls' recent article, like everything he writes, is fine in words and contains some argument, but is not above criticism. He cites the excessive rates paid by the government for carrying the mails. Haven't the Socialists the best of this fact? It results because the government does not do the work itself as in the delivery of individual mail, but lets it out on contract, the very act to which the Socialists object.

"The railroads get the extravagant rates by corrupting the government officials, from the lawmakers down. If the government did this work, employing those who do it, as with the carriers, this opportunity would not be presented. And this cause and effect exist everywhere, especially in cities. And it has become what has well been termed 'commercialism.'"

"The opportunity presented to make money out of government contracts is the incentive to bribe-giving. The Socialists say where this incentive does not exist the public official is not debauched nor the public treasury looted. And this is an argument of force, and if the laws do not soon prevent it or public

officials become more honest it will become irresistible.

"The Socialist ranks are being increased now by people who are coming to believe that a government can better employ those who are to serve it than stockholders of a corporation who act for their own interest, and many good people believe that if all those who are in office and in the employ of the government were not allowed to vote, there would be less corruption and better service rendered than seems to result from letting out by contract the performance of public duties.

"All politics is fast becoming intensely 'practical' and business-like, and the good citizen who does not perform his duty on convention and election day casts half his influence and vote for the other side."

San Diego Chieftain: A person who has been "born and raised" an idiot generally takes great pride in being a fool. The years may come and go, conditions may change, war pestilence and poverty may threaten society, but the idiot will continue to be a fool just the same. Environment or changed conditions cannot effect his mind and he is not responsible. We wonder whether some of our old party friends who boast of their political heredity can see any point in this.

The Herald will be sent to any address in the United States 26 weeks for 20 cents.

### BUILD AND GO FORWARD

"Blest be the tempest and kind the storm that drives us nearer home."

The differences within the Social Democratic Party arising from the effort to unite with the S. L. P. emphasises the fact that Socialism needs a more compact organization of its working force in America.

What we need is practically a bullet-proof organization, one that can confront any condition, deal with any question, and be its own "Savior." Of course we have comrades on both sides of this question, who feel that it is their divine mission to "save the movement." But those who understand the historic development of the movement and appreciate what is being done for Socialism without as well as within the organization realize that the organization is the important factor; not the number of its members, but the harmony and efficiency of its working force, and the marvelous growth of the party since the convention is evidence of the splendid work they are doing. New branches

are being organized, new members admitted, and on every hand there is evidence of life and progress.

The party is just entering its first real battle; much depends on the showing made for our presidential candidate, and the comrades who are sincere in their efforts to advance Socialism will have no time to croak or inclinations to whine. Let us have united action now—the united party will come without a fight if you are ever ready for it; but now there is work, earnest work to be done, and the comrades should join in one supreme effort to strengthen and build the party.

"The duty of the springs and streams everywhere should be to babble forth the word Forward."

Sylvester Keliher.

Others, I doubt not, if not we, The issue of our toils shall see; Young children gather as their own The harvests that the dead have sown The dead—forgotten and unknown.

—Lewis Morris.



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CHICAGO, SATURDAY, JULY 14, 1900.

## PROSPERITY ABOVE PERSONS

Very much of the talk now prevalent in defense of property was used as an argument by men who framed the constitution and founded this government. It was asserted that "property is certainly the principle object of society." From the beginning of this republic, so-called property has possessed rights superior to those of persons. And we have evolved up to that point where the property of a thief gets more consideration than the man who creates the property. The constitution of the United States once pledged the federal government to the protection of property in men with a black skin. But we have advanced from that position, and now protect monopolies of those things which men, black and white, must have to sustain life. Under the old policy it was the property-holder's interest to care for his property; under the new his only interest is in the things which cost him nothing and he did not make, but which law guarantees him the full enjoyment of, and punishes the man who protests against the injustice. The new, like the old, is slavery, and the law now, as then, protects the man with property.

## ABOUT BRYAN'S PLATFORM

Referring to the Kansas City platform it will be well for workingmen to ask themselves a few questions. For instance:

If Porto Rico were given a government such as the United States has, that is, a government administered by capitalists in the interest of property, how much better off would the working class be in Porto Rico?

If the Filipinos are given the same political liberty we enjoy in the United States and are denied economic freedom, will their condition be improved, and is expansion and the "extension of the republic's influence" under the flag without freedom to work and to live any better than out-and-out imperialism?

If the trusts and corporations should be "protected in all their rights and legitimate [legalized] interests," what more has the republican party ever done and so long as the rights of trusts are respected will not the wrongs of workingmen go unredressed?

If the proposed department of labor were created and a capitalist politician put in charge of it, with a seat in the cabinet along with the others of the same kidney, how would that tend to the elevation of American workingmen under the wage system?

## ARE YOU WORKER, BEGGAR OR THIEF?

What are you doing on God's fair earth and task-garden, where who-so-ever is not working is begging or stealing?—Carlyle.

Socialists combat the orthodox opinion that each one is responsible for his own condition, good or bad, and while recognizing inequalities of individual talents and capacities, contend that the possession of talent and capacity by the individual is something that society bestows.

The individual, of whatever ability or skill, is a debtor to society, not alone for all he has, but for all he is capable of doing. Socialists contend that if all were workers and rendering their best service to society, the workingman would not, could not, be poor.

The poverty and wretchedness of the workingman originate in a system which gives the highest awards to those who are not working. The man who lives on interest is not working. The man who lives on rent is not working. The man who does not do a lick of intellectual or manual labor on a railroad, and yet draws dividends from the road, is not working.

All forms of income that result from no labor on the part of those receiving them are unjust and immoral. By far the larger portion of the "earnings" of business go to those who do not work. Men do not beg for interest, rent and dividends; they do not work for them.

Who-so-ever is not working (manually or intellectually) is begging or stealing. Stealing is theft. Are you a worker, beggar or thief?

The Socialists in the Italian chamber are going to bring a bill proposing to repeal the duties on corn in Italy.

## SOCIALISM THE CIVILIZER

You may go on believing that the democracy of the world, which has destroyed kings and overthrown empires, will go down before porcine aristocrats, oily monopolists and swagbilly politicians, but the people are thinking; they are coming to see, and

Some day, by laws as fixed and fair  
As guide the planets in their sweep,  
The children of each outcast heir  
The harvest-fruits of Time shall reap.

Time will destroy all your speculations of profit in human industry and confirm the "wild and woolly" notions of many a simple Socialist whom you affect to despise. True democracy—political and educational—carries us inevitably forward to the co-operative commonwealth. Time often flies too swiftly to be marked and in its flight shows slight regard for our fictions of opinion. At the beginning of this century human beings were sold with oxen in the streets of St. Petersburg, and buyer and bought thought it was a fixed and permanent order of the universe. Today the press, though secret and hunted by the police, has splintered the auction block, and the czar has to reckon not so much with brute force and dynamite as with the truths and logic of Socialism. Socialism civilizes the world by degrees in advance of its final triumph. It was the seer, Emerson, who said five years before black slavery was abolished that it would not be done in the next generation. When you speculate on what time will do, don't be so sure. Nothing is fixed.

## SOCIALIST FLASHLIGHT TURNED ON CURRENT IDEAS AND EVENTS

Admitting for the moment (what is not true) that there is employment for all men who want it, what kind of employment is it? When a man has found work under capitalism, what has he really done? He has simply placed himself in a position where he can procure a small part of what he produces merely to sustain life. But even the opportunity to sustain life involves the transforming of all the energy he acquires from his pittance of a wage into more surplus which the capitalist appropriates. Meanwhile the preacher tells him to love his fellow-men, in the hope of a blessed future beyond the grave—right at the time, too, when his stomach is empty and his employer's is full, and when his torn and tattered coat prevents him attending "divine" service to see his well-groomed master "in the midst of them."

Have you ever thought what a real comfort the machine must be to the capitalist employer who owns it? The machine was never known to join a union, or ask for a day off, or go on a spree or go to sleep, or grow weary, or organize a strike, or babble about its "rights," or be moved by "sympathy." It never "dreams," is always active, industrious and obedient. There is only one drawback, one source of annoyance to the capitalist, and that is that while there are machines, there are also human beings with stomachs to feed, backs to clothe and heads to shelter. What a paradise for capitalists this would be were there no stomachs! Would it?

Did you notice how the Cuban scandal and embezzlement had been smothered by the McKinley administration? Do you know why? The criminals (friends of Hanna), it is said, have been "exposed," and there it ends. "Thou shalt not steal" is understood nowadays to apply to the poor man who is hungry, has no money, can't find work and takes bread to sustain life; it has no application to the rich who take advantage of a system which permits them to separate the laborer from the means of gaining a living and takes from him three-fourths of what he produces, when employed, under an iniquitous wage system. Law is not for the Neelys and Rathbones, who "stand in" with the Hannas and McKinleys.

The taxed man raises corn, the taxing man raises corruption; the taxed man raises wheat, the taxing man raises war; the taxed man raises potatoes, the taxing man raises perquisites; the taxed man raises hogs, the taxing man raises hell; the taxed man raises sheep, the taxing man uses the "sheep"; the taxed man improves the land, the taxing man is ruining the land. Hurrah for McKinley and the "best government on earth!"

Modern capitalism has created an environment for the millions of the world's workers that breeds disease and culminates in death. Its apologetic writers, looking at surface manifestations only, lay the blame of individual failure, mental deformity or immorality upon the suffering victims themselves. They are wholly unmindful of the fact that the capitalist is chiefly responsible for the depravity and misery in the world.

An advertiser in one of the city daily papers wants "clerks for the country," who must be good penmen and "able to endure hard living," at low wages. This is a fascinating opportunity for young college graduates desirous of rising in the world—plenty of work, hard living and small pay—it is under similar conditions that every millionaire laid the foundation of his fortune. So it is!

If the young man with small capital undertakes to invest it for "profit," the chances are as ten to one against him. His own experience, tact, judgment and small resources are not equal to the struggle, and, in spite of his best efforts, his small capital is soon absorbed in the larger one of the capitalist class. This process goes on without intermission, and the people of small means are disappearing wherever the capitalist system holds sway.

Wages are in large degree measured by the necessities of the employing capitalist. If it is necessary for an employing capitalist to maintain his reputation as a philanthropist, he cuts down wages; if necessity obliges him to invest more capital to secure more profits, he cuts down wages. The wants and privations of the workingmen—well, they don't count.

None understand better than Socialists the need of capital to promote human existence and carry on production. And none have as clear a comprehension of the waste of capital under capitalism as Socialists. No Socialist, dead or alive, ever advocated or favored the destruction of capital.

The "union" convention of Pennsylvania, called by the S. L. P. (with the assistance of a paper called Public Ownership) consisted of seventy-one S. L. P.'s and the editor of P. O. Small game that, after the expenditure of so vast an amount of ammunition.

Your power in the state, Mr. Dollard, is measured by a single vote. But the power of the Standard Oil company in the state is measured by two hundred million dollars. Not till you throw your vote with the Socialists will your power count against the other.

The poor are equally entitled to the protection of law with the rich; but the rich make the laws, and laws that the rich make never protected the poor. To have a title to protection and be subject to plunder is to be a slave to a delusion.

In his first inaugural address McKinley said: "Legislation helpful to producers is beneficial to all." But in all the legislation enacted since he became president, not a single measure has helped the producers.

Four years ago the wage slaves voted to protect the capitalists; now they are asked to do it again. Every vote cast for a party not opposed to the present system is a vote for capitalists.

The remorseless logic of Karl Marx was directed, not against capital, but against capital privately employed as an instrument to exploit and rule the laborer who creates capital.

Every workingman who would rather build homes for other men to own and get rent for than to build for himself, will vote the Republican or Democratic ticket.

The man who works for wages works for the boss who pays the wages and is a slave; most of the results of the slave's work necessarily goes to the boss.

## SELF INTEREST

"Oh, you can't change human nature," is so frequently used in arguments in opposition to socialistic principles. Human nature is as unchangeable as the fixed laws that govern the universe. It is pointed out that human nature has never changed, but that conditions and environments have and are constantly changing; self-interest is the incentive of all action and evolution through which society has and does pass.

History gives us accounts of the warfare of barbarians and the method of treatment of their captives, by being cut up and consumed; following the instinct of self-interest brought out by the struggle for existence, as cannibalism was then highly moral. As these tribes became more numerous and more intelligent and had to depend on the ground for subsistence, they found out that their prisoners could furnish more subsistence by letting them work the land, instead of eating their flesh.

Had human nature changed by doing this? Not at all, the economic system had changed and they were simply following the incentive "self-interest." The prisoners were not asked to consent to this change, but the better condition produced by the captives' labor and produce, and so in following their self-interest, cannibalism became immoral, slavery and serfdom highly moral.

Next in line in evolution we come to the feudal lords who claimed the land and every one living on it. Had human nature changed and mankind become more humane? Not at all; the economic system had once more changed, the possessing classes, the feudal lords, acting in self-interest, demanded that production should be carried on in their interest by the people being tied to the land, so that land slavery was highly moral, and the other two immoral.

We now come to the middle ages. A new class began to appear to down the existing class; this was the trading or

commercial class, the forerunner of our capitalistic class. These traders handled the product of the free workers and began to extend the existing markets, established factories on a small scale, inducing the workers to co-operate with them to widen the scale, placed the workers in districts, thereby opening the way to individual production. Soon they began to work for the downfall of feudalism.

Did they feel sorry for the serf and his condition? Not much; the main factor in this change, the serf, was not asked at all, the rising capitalistic class was simply following as its predecessors have done, its self-interest. Competition was then looked upon and encouraged as the life of trade, only a free worker would be useful for that purpose, work for the cost of production and not be dependent on its master; when production ceases. The only way in which this point could be gained was through the abolition of the feudal system, under which the laborer was attached to the land. Finally capital succeeded in overthrowing this system, and in its place was introduced the last stage of slavery for the working class. The incentive of action, self-interest, must in the final struggle end in the interest of the working class.

Thus has the evolution of society changed in the past, not human nature; morals had nothing to do with it; all advancement was in spite of the then existing morals, but steadfastly clung to its self-interest, and all the progress that has been made up till now is selfish progress. In none of these changes or evolutions of society, those most interested, the captives, slave or serf, have not been asked to consent, but the ruling or exploiting class in each case simply following its self-interest, and this has caused a new organization of society.

Through all these evolutions there has been a hard struggle to rule between the classes. Each system contained within itself the germs of the system which would supersede it or destroy it as soon as the time was ripe.

With the commencement of the capitalistic system, the struggle has been narrowed down to the possessing and exploiting class. It is the final struggle and when finished once will usher in a system that will be just and equitable. The capitalistic or ruling class does not contain the germ of any new exploiting class. Human nature has not yet changed, self-interest is the incentive to usher in the new society.

In the economic field stands the trades unions, not yet intelligent enough in their class interest, but fighting along the line of self-interest, as the strikes in the different lines of employment indicate. Sooner or later this struggle will make them conscious of their interest, and this interest is in the political field of Socialism, following the line of self-interest, doing as their exploiters are now doing, control the political field. The leaders of the old parties fear this new party because it is world wide, the potentates of Europe fear and hate it, as they see their downfall in its ascendancy. The entire laboring world will be forced into the ranks of Socialists, simply through self-interest; when this is accomplished, the present system will be overthrown and the co-operative commonwealth established.

Self-interest of the worker dictates that work can and shall be had if wanted, and to receive the full social value for it; this can not be had now, as the capitalist is the legal owner of the means of production and distribution, his self-interest is opposed to that of the laborer. The next great change or evolution in society will come about simply because human nature does not change, but that its incentive, self-interest, will change the present system. Socialists do not propose to change human nature, they simply point out that conditions and environments have been and can be changed, and that self-interest will and has changed them in the past.

H. H. Meyer.

## JACK POTTS' OBSERVATIONS

A Statement of Facts By a Socialist Workingman Which Appeals to His Class.

I insist that you men who work shall read these lines, and read them carefully. Some of the statistics have been printed before in The Herald, but maybe you didn't pay much attention to them.

Whom do you consider your friends—the men and women who give their lives and nearly all they have to the building up of a real brotherhood, or the rapacious, selfish horde who sacrifice you instead of themselves? Read Kropotkin's passionate "Appeal to the Young," and then tell me if you can be a hog or vote for the hogs: And in order to clear your mind read the following figures and see if they mean anything to you:

Suicides—In 1835, 978; in 1895, 5,750.

Murders—In 1885, 1,808; in 1895, 10,500.

Insanity increased 50 per cent faster than the population between 1850 and 1890.

Wealth per capita—In 1850, \$345; in 1890, \$974. This looks good if we go no further. But let us look at it from another view: In 1850 the wealth per capita among the workers was \$239.50; in 1890 it was only \$184—a decrease of

\$55.50! Who gained what you lost? Look: Wealth of non-workers per capita in 1850, \$1,293; in 1890, \$8,081. The non-workers gained \$6,792 per capita. Figure out, if you can, where prosperity comes in for you.

Remember now, the college fellows admit that the people who work bear the burden of taxation. The workers are in the majority. The business of government should be to care for the interests of the majority. Does our government do this? No. Then what do you think of the college fellows—McKinley and Bryan and all their apologists and "promoters"—who ask you to vote their tickets and thereby "save the country"—for them? Some time ago I asked a first-class lawyer if the Socialist's argument could be refuted, and he promptly replied: "No." And he is a Bryan man! Then the college fellows, knowing these things, must be knaves. They certainly are not fools. Both the old party propositions are as full of holes as a sieve, because they pretend that they will make us all prosperous and yet retain the present throat-cutting, competitive industrial plan. The Socialist's plan is as sound as the much-chased and adored dollar, because he wants to supplant competition with co-operation. You are in the majority. Vote for what YOU want, not for what the capitalist confidence men want.

I was talking to my friend Bill, the molder, the other day. (You know I work for my living, too.) He said he was really a "Socialist at heart," but thought he would vote for Bryan. "Bill," said I to him, "you are going to make a monkey of yourself," and I showed him why. And now he swears he will vote for Debs this fall!

And Mr. Workingman, there is another thing I want you to notice: Shortly after men turn Socialists they generally begin to be as big fools as I am about working for the cause. They induce their friends to subscribe for Socialist papers. They spend their own money for Socialist literature and for postage to mail it to their friends. They are as enthusiastic as camp-meeting exhorters, day and night, everywhere. Many of these enthusiasts are hard-working men, and they are not running for office, either. There is "nothing in it" for them. Isn't that peculiar? Why do they do it? They have seen a little of the light, that's why! Let me know if you see any disinterested workingman doing such work for either of the old parties this year.

Mr. Workingman, come in out of the wet! The old-party schemers are your friends for revenue only.

Oh, the Commercial Instinct is a fine thing! This rampant, rambunctious "incentive" of mankind is illustrated by the story of Osear Bock, fourth officer of the Saale, one of the vessels destroyed at Hoboken a few days ago:

"I called to the tug, 'Save me!' 'How much?' they asked. 'I have no money.' 'Then you might as well be dead,' they said, laughing, and turned away."

The Chicago Evening Post of July 3, in an article commenting on Bock's story and other similar ones, affected to be surprised and shocked—as though our unholy competitive scheme could breed aught but peace and purity and unselfishness!—and ended as follows: "If the stories were true our whole social system, with its religion and morality, would have to be pronounced a hollow mockery."

Dear editorial boy, right now our boasted civilization, with its alleged religion, is a mighty close imitation of a "hollow mockery"! A few more years of "economics without ethics" will put us up against the "real thing." Hurrah for the McHanna and Rockefeller era of rotten national conscience! Hurrah for an age when secular and religious educators smother their consciences and fawn, evade, equivocate and try to poison an industrial system covered with virulent ulcers! Hurrah for the hypocritical or pathetically ignorant who prate of "charity"! Hurrah, in short, for an international civilization generally insane from worship of the "Goddess of Getting-On"! May all the unseen forces that impel the cause of truth expand the minds, strengthen the hearts and steady the nerves of the few heroic souls who today, in the midst of this vast hypocrisy and greed, are raising their voices in protest against industrial slavery. I would rather my name were Kropotkin, Bakounin, Debs or Besant than, McKinley!

JACK POTTS.

## NATIONAL CAMPAIGN FUND

H. H. Meyer, Soldiers' Home	\$ 5.00
Al Pierson, Jacksonville	.50
"Z," Chicago	.25
Previously reported	850.00
	\$856.00

## BRANCH SUPPLIES

Membership Cards (per 100)	1.00
Membership Applications (100)	.25
Constitutions (each)	.03

Send orders with cash to Theodore Debs, 126 Washington Street, Chicago. No supplies sent on credit.



## NOTES FROM THE FIELD

Comrade Liscomb, candidate for governor of Missouri, spoke at Lamar, that state, June 30, and a number of new members were added to the roll.

As the Herald goes to press news comes from Terre Haute of the nomination of a full Social Democratic county ticket. It will appear next week.

Unattached Socialists in Colorado and others desiring the services of speaker and organizer are requested to correspond with W. G. Henry, Ouray, Colo.

At a special meeting of Branch 46, S. D. P., South Braintree, Mass., June 29, a unanimous vote was passed endorsing the N. E. B. and maintaining its stand as being democratic.

The Omamee Herald of Omamee, N. D., has come out in support of the Social Democratic party and the national ticket. The Herald is \$1-per year, managed by Ralph W. Simpkins.

The following State Executive Committee was chosen at the Texas Social Democratic convention: W. E. Farmer, T. Midden, Dan Bruce, Karl Feigle and Charles Trotter. The convention nominated Comrade Rhodes for governor and endorsed the Indianapolis platform and ticket.

We have the pleasure of calling attention to a grand picnic arranged for next Sunday, July 15, at Paradise Garden, by Union No. 15 of the International Cigarmakers. The place is one block east of Sharpshooters' Park at Melrose street and Oakley avenue, and we bespeak for the occasion a large attendance.

Local Branch No. 20, New York City, met Thursday, July 5, at 2766 Third avenue. Twelve members were present and seven new members were admitted. The branch decided to carry on a vigorous agitation and to distribute The Herald and the Appeal to Reason. All Social Democrats in Bronx Borough are notified that this branch meets at the above address twice a month. The next meeting will be on Thursday, July 19, when Comrade James' Allman will speak.

## NEW BRANCHES

Saginaw, Mich. (2).  
New York City.  
Cripple Creek, Colo.  
Kerrville, Texas.  
Clinton, Iowa.

## NEW JERSEY CONVENTION

The state convention of the Social Democratic party will be held at Lyric hall, 305 Plane street, Newark, N. J., at which time members of the S. L. P. will assist under the name of the S. D. P. All members should attend the above convention.

E. C. Wind, Sec. of S. C.,  
484 Washington street, Newark, N. J.

The following resolutions were adopted at the meeting of the State Committee on Saturday, June 30, 1900, at a conference held on the above date at Newark, N. J.:

Section 1. Our committees hereby report that we are in favor of united action in the coming campaign under the name of Social Democratic Party, and that a convention to be called upon the following basis of representation, each branch to elect as many delegates as possible and that no proxy to be recognized.

Sec. 2. At the above named convention candidates for Eugene V. Debs and Job Harriman electors and governor and other candidates for state officers to be elected this fall shall be nominated.

Sec. 3. The campaign for the election of the candidates so nominated shall be in the hands of a committee to be elected by the state convention.

Sec. 4. This campaign committee shall be made up of an equal number of the Social Labor Party and of the Social Democratic Party.

Sec. 5. Not later than one week previous to the convention the officers of each state committee shall furnish the other state committee with a list of local branches, with location, number of membership and names of at least two officers.

Sec. 6. The convention to be held at Newark, N. J., Saturday, July 14, at 4 p. m.

G. H. Strobell,  
Chairman of Conference.  
J. C. Weigel,  
Sec. of the S. L. P.  
E. C. Wind,  
Sec. of the S. D. P.

## IOWA STATE CONVENTION

A convention of the Social Democratic party of Iowa is hereby called to meet at the city of Oskaloosa on Friday, Oct. 10, 1900.

Owing to the fact that there are thousands of unattached Socialists in Iowa as yet not affiliated with branches, we have deemed it proper to issue the call so as to admit a reasonable number of Socialists from each county in addition to and distinct from the representation of the branches. Therefore Socialists throughout the state are invited to attend and participate in the work of the convention.

Each county will be permitted to have five votes of this character.

Each branch of the Social Democratic

party and each section of the Social Labor party will be permitted as many votes as there are members of the branch or section, and the members present from such branch or section will be permitted to cast the full vote of the membership of said organization. The convention will assemble at 10 o'clock a. m., and in addition to such other matters as may properly come before that body will transact the following business:

1. The nomination of a full state and electoral ticket.
2. The nomination in district caucuses, so far as possible, candidates for congress.
3. The formation of a permanent organization of Iowa Socialists.

(Signed) A. W. Ricker,  
State Organizer.

## SOCIAL DEMOCRATS' PICNIC

The value of the annual picnic to the cause of Socialism was clearly demonstrated on the 4th of July, when over a thousand men, women and children gathered for a day's outing at Bergmann's Grove, on the Desplaines river, and, despite the hot weather, enjoyed themselves so thoroughly that before returning home there was much support given the suggestion that another picnic be held in a few weeks. As early as 8:30 in the morning comrades with their families and friends began to arrive on the ground, and every train on the Suburban electric, about thirty minutes apart, brought its complement of Social Democrats, until by the middle of the afternoon not less than a thousand had joined in the merry-making crowd. Many new faces were seen, and the interest manifested in the discussions which were going on throughout the day on Socialism was not the least pleasant and satisfactory feature of the occasion. Of course, there were refreshments in abundance, and of all kinds, so that everybody partook of the good things provided according to individual preference. The dancing platform was occupied most of the day by a merry crowd of young people, and when they were not dancing the surrounding woods and river bank had attractions for them.

Among these present and heartily welcomed was, Comrade Herman C. Perry of Spring Valley, Social Democratic candidate for governor. At 3 o'clock in the afternoon Comrade Perry spoke to the people from the band stand and made a very good impression. He is a pleasing and convincing speaker. Comrades Svoboda and Koop also made short addresses.

One of the most important events of the day was the organization of a Social Democratic Women's Club. A large company of women assembled at 4 o'clock, and after a free discussion, in which many took part, thirty of their number signified their readiness to join the club. In this connection notice is given that a meeting will be held Friday afternoon, July 20, at the Socialist Club Rooms, 1541 Central boulevard, for the purpose of perfecting the organization and arranging a program of active work. Weather permitting, this meeting will be held on the beautiful lawn at the above address. To reach the place, take the Lake street elevated to Homan avenue station, walk one block west to St. Louis avenue, then north to Central boulevard.

It is believed that the central committee will clear a handsome sum on the picnic, but as returns on ticket sales are not all in, nothing definite is yet known. Comrades who have sold tickets are requested to report at once.

## BROOKLYN MOVES TO AMEND

At a regular meeting of Branch 5, Brooklyn, the following amendments to the constitution were adopted to be recommended to the members of the party:

Prop. 2 of Sec. 2. That N. E. B. consists of five resident members, and one delegation from each organized state.

Sec. 13. That every two years a national convention be held.

Sec. 14. That a referendum vote may be called for by five branches.

Sec. 30. That the N. E. B. cannot suspend any branch before the decision of the vote is known.

Sec. 33. That a member under charges, not being satisfied with the decision of the branch or the N. E. B., may at the request of five branches have the question submitted to the membership for their vote.

S. Pressman,  
Secretary.

## NEBRASKA CONVENTION

The Social Democratic party convention of Nebraska, at Lincoln, July 4, passed the following resolution:

Whereas, We, the Socialists of Nebraska, in convention assembled, at Lincoln, Nebraska, July 4, 1900, do deem proper the action of the National Executive Board in the matter of the union of the S. D. P. and the S. L. P., therefore, be it

Resolved, That we hereby endorse the action of the National Executive Board, and instruct the secretary to send a copy of the resolution to our official paper, the S. D. Herald.

B. O. Hadley, Chairman.  
Attest: Clement Ryan, Secretary.

## CONVENTION CALL

Of the Social Democratic Party of Cook County, Illinois, July 15.

In accordance with the action of the City Central Committee of the Social Democratic party, at its regular meeting, Wednesday, June 27, and the instructions given the undersigned, a county convention of the Social Democratic party of Cook County, Illinois, is hereby called to assemble at Bohemian Turner Hall, 825 So. Ashland, near Eighteenth street, Chicago, at 10 o'clock a. m., on Sunday, July 15, 1900, for the purpose of nominating candidates for the various county offices and the transaction of all other business that may properly come before it.

The representation at said convention will be by delegates chosen as follows:

First. Each branch shall be entitled to as many representatives as there are individual members in good standing, and each representative shall be entitled to one (1) vote, for each member, whose name is signed to his credential; and provided, further, that no member shall sign his name to more than one credential.

Second. Branches not sending their own representatives may select those of other branches in the county to represent them; provided that in each case the representative shall hold the proper credential with the signature of members attached as herein provided.

Third. No member shall be qualified to serve as representative who has not been a member of the party at least thirty (30) days prior to the opening day of the convention.

Fourth. All signatures of members attached to credentials, as herein provided, shall be certified to by the chairman or secretary of their respective branches.

M. Holsinger,  
Charles Tyl,  
Jacob Winnen.

Committee.

June 30, 1900.

## WHY PAY DUES?

To some of our comrades the payment of \$1 a year dues to a political party is strange and repugnant. This feature is only peculiar, however, to those who fail to understand the movement and its political aspect.

Capitalism is here in all its power, sanctified by the past and glorified by the present. Throughout the hour, day and year its praises are sung by the united press, pulpit and literature, joined with prejudice and passion.

When election time comes the proletariat is "jollied"; he becomes a "sovereign citizen," "voting king," "the only pebble." To flatter, fool and cheer him the capitalist class put up Hanna, Vanderbilt, Golet, Quay, Dewey and other workmen assume all the "white man's burdens" in the Republican camp, while Senator Clark, Belmont, Croker, Hill, Stuenkel (governor of Idaho) and Jones will find the "grease" for the Democratic party. Of course, it is kind of them not to ask the fat, high-priced and prosperous laborer to raise their campaign fund. We should appreciate it.

The national campaign funds of the capitalist class will run into the millions; they will furnish the "soap." You proletarians can join them freely without price.

From the wealth you create they will pay for the music and torch lights, and for the infusions, jails and coal steel. Some proletarians would be free, yet pause and grow cold at the dues of a dollar per year.

Without a national organization at present, how could a comparatively disorganized state systematically organize nationally?

Our party must continue its work and campaign from day to day and year to year. To simply "line up with the boys" with vocal and instrumental breeze just before election is useless and teaches no principles of class solidarity.

Since the inception of our party nearly one million copies of The Herald have been circulated, and over 50,000 leaflets, books, etc., and over 38,000 letters have been sent out to encourage organization and build up the Social Democratic party.

If a member should divide \$3 annually and equally between the national, state and county organizations, in ten years it would amount to only \$30, and suppose such effort only resulted in an old age pension as small as that in New Zealand, it would be an ample return for the expenditure, basing it upon the most sordid premises.

The cry "no dues, no Herald!" at this time is a disguised plea for disorganization.

## BADGER STATE PROGRESS

Milwaukee, July 3.—The Social Democrats of Wisconsin have chosen Ferdinand W. Rehfeld as state organizer, and he will leave Milwaukee during the present week for his initial trip. Thus far his route has not been made out, but it will embrace some of the towns and cities that have been clamoring loudest for organization. Comrade Rehfeld has a good presence, is a pleasing talker and has capacity for hard work. He is sufficiently conversant with the German language to meet the requirements of his position, particularly in a state so largely settled by Germans as Wisconsin. Owing to the large Bohemian popula-

## LOCAL BRANCHES

Notices of Branch Meetings Inserted for 25 Cents per Month

### CALIFORNIA

Liberty Branch, San Francisco, holds public meetings every Sunday and Wednesday evenings, commencing at 8 o'clock. Admission free. Business meetings (for members) every Thursday evening.

Membership Social Democratic Herald free to each member 25 cents per month.

Apply to the secretary, John C. Wesley, 117 Turk street.

Branch No. 1, Los Angeles, meets every Sunday at 8 o'clock at Woodburn's Hall, 1234 Spring St. J. France, 70 Dayton Ave., Secretary.

Branch No. 5, Alameda, California, holds free public meetings every 21 and 28 Sunday, 8 p. m. at Foresters' Hall, cor. Park St. and Santa Clara Ave. Business and Educational meetings (for members) 1st and 3rd Mondays, 8 p. m. at 2485 Euclid Ave. Alana A. Crockett, Secretary, 1619 Walnut St.

### COLORADO

Branch No. 1, Denver, meets every Sunday at 8:00 p. m. at 113 California Ave., Chas. M. Davis, Secretary, 1629 17th Street.

Branch No. 3, Goldfield, meets every Sunday at 7:30 p. m. at City Hall, Chas. La Camp, Secretary.

### CONNECTICUT

The Connecticut State Committee meets the last Sunday of each month at Turn Hall, Rockville, L. Schall, Secretary.

Branch No. 4, New Haven, meets every Wednesday evening, at 8 p. m. at Aurora Hall, C. Volmer, Sec.

Branch No. 4, Rockville, Conn., meets first and third Thursdays at Turn Hall meeting room, Village street. Secretary, Richard Niederwieser, Box 795.

### ILLINOIS

Meetings of Chicago Central Committee held regularly second and fourth Wednesdays of each month at Dr. J. H. Greer's office, 52 Dearborn St.

Branch No. 1, Chicago, meets every Wednesday evening, Thomas Kirwin, Secretary, 2504 Wentworth Ave.

Branch No. 2 (Bohemian), Chicago, meets second and fourth Sundays at 2 p. m. at Nagle's Hall, 635 Blue Island Ave. Vaclov Jellinek, Secretary, 605 Blue Island Ave.

Branch No. 3 (Bohemian), Chicago, meets second and fourth Mondays at 8 p. m. in Dunder's place, 1080 W. 15th place. Joseph Dunder, Secretary.

Branch No. 4, Chicago, meets second and fourth Sundays at 8 p. m. at Andr. Muzik's, 40 String St. Paul Chlapacka, Secretary, 255 Hattie St.

Branch No. 6 (German), Chicago, meets every first Saturday each month at 8 o'clock at Nagle's Hall, 635 Blue Island Ave., near 18th St. Albin Gelsler, Secretary, 726 W. 2nd St.

Branch No. 8 (Bohemian) Chicago, meets second and fourth Sunday, 9 a. m., at 5022 Linn Street. J. A. Ambroz, Secretary, 4949 Wood Street.

Branch No. 9, Chicago, meets at 118 W. 63rd st., first and third Sundays at 3 p. m. Roswell H. Johnson, Secretary, 652 E. 51st St.

### INDIANA

Branch No. 6, Indianapolis, meets first Saturday evening and third Sunday afternoon of each month at Reichwein's Hall, corner Market and Noble Sts.

### IOWA

Branch No. 2, Hiteam, meets every fourth Friday at the month at opera house. S. B. Jamison, chairman. James Fisher, organizer. Joseph Schollmeyer, secretary.

### KENTUCKY

Branch No. 4, Bellevue, meets 1st and 3rd Sunday, at 2 p. m. at 2nd and 4th Wed. day at 8 p. m. at 91 railroad ave. We want all interested for all. Henry Listerman, Sec. 132 Foote ave.

### MARYLAND

Branch No. 1, Baltimore, meets every Sunday at 8 p. m. at the printer's Hall, 50 E. Baltimore St. Public invited.

Branch No. 2, Baltimore, meets every Tuesday at 8 p. m. at Wenzel's Hotel, 425 W. Camden st. (near streetcar). Public invited. Lydia T. Jones, Secretary, 242 W. Harriet st.

### MASSACHUSETTS

The Massachusetts State Committee meets the first Saturday of each month at 124 Washington St., Boston. All dues and money intended for the State Committee should be sent to the treasurer, 124 Washington St., Boston. All other correspondence should be addressed to the corresponding secretary, Margaret Haile, 5 Glenwood St., Roxbury.

Branch No. 2, Holyoke, meets second and fourth Mondays of each month at Springfield Turner Hall. Jas. Gelsler, Organizer, 587 Sumner St.

Branch No. 8, Lynn, permanent headquarters, 71 Market St. Meets every Monday night at 8 p. m. open house. Public invited. Harry Trotter, Sec. 122 Essex St.

Branch No. 9, Brockton, meets Friday nights at 8 p. m. for discussion at Socialists' Hall, 100 W. Main st. Main and Canal Sts. Every comrade is expected to attend one meeting a month. Mrs. Annie B. Swarth, Secretary, 51 Prospect St.

Branch No. 10, Boston, meets every Monday at 8 p. m. at 96 Chelsea St. Miss Jenn Segal, Secretary, 39 Chelsea St.

Branch No. 18, Newburyport, meets the second Monday of each month at 8 p. m. at 10 W. Main st. F. H. Conard, Secretary, 60 Collins st. A. L. Bailey, 288 Main st.

Branch No. 25, Roxbury, Mass., meets at 21 Warren st. 2nd and 4th Mondays, at 8 p. m. at 10 W. Main st. in the International Congress Hall. All are cordially invited. C. E. Rogers, Secretary.

### MICHIGAN

Branch No. 1, Battle Creek, Mich., meets 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month, at 8 p. m. at 10 W. Main st. in the International Congress Hall. All are cordially invited. C. E. Rogers, Secretary.

tion in Milwaukee and some of the interior cities, there is a plan afoot to secure Comrade Ferdinand Svoboda of Chicago to make a brief tour of the state at an early date.

Hereafter the Milwaukee central committee will meet on the second and fourth Mondays of each month. The first meeting under the new rule will take place next Monday, July 9. The change was made so that the meeting weeks should not conflict with those of the Federated Trades Council, which meets on the first and third Wednesdays of the month.

The state convention will be held sometime next month, in all probability, it being planned to wait as long as possible so as to give such new branches as come into existence through the efforts of the new organizer a chance to participate.

Wisconsin stands pat. The slanders that the "purified" S. L. P. papers are printing show us that it is the same old S. L. P. after all. We are not averse to political affiliation, but an organic union so long as the S. L. P. still holds to its old stagnating, heresy-hunting and narrow habits of agitation would mean simply the turning over of the splendid Social Democratic movement into the control of men not at all in sympathy with its broadness, and put the American Socialist movement back to where it was when the S. L. P. was the only party and ruled despotically. Men who were inclined to join the movement were repelled with slanderous treatment, its spy system methods, etc. To show that there is danger of getting back to the old "reign of terror days" we ask the comrades to read the scurrilous circular just issued by an alleged state committee of the state of Washington. If the spirit which that circular breathes were to again get control of the American movement, Socialism would get a black eye that would do it lasting injury. The days for such sectarian methods are past. Long live the Social Democratic Party!

## MINNESOTA

Branch 1, Red Lake Falls, meets every other Sunday in real estate office of Fred Gesswein, on Main St. A. Kingshofer, Secretary.

## MISSOURI

St. Louis headquarters, Room 7, 22 N. Fourth St. Address all communications to E. Val Putnam, Secretary. For information concerning ward branches, inquire at the above address.

Branch No. 7, Kansas City, meets every Tuesday at 8 p. m. at 1200 Union Ave. G. J. Sturz, Secretary, 1530 W. 9th St.

## MONTANA

Branch No. 1, Butte, meets every Thursday, at 8:30 p. m. Engineers' Hall, Owsley Block. G. Frankel, Sec. 71 E. Park Street.

Branch No. 2 meets first and third Sundays of each month at G. W. Wood's home, Chico, Mont.

## NEW JERSEY

Branch No. 1, Secotary, Michael W. Schor, 87 Livingston st.

Branch No. 5, Camden, N. J., meets every 4th Sunday of the month. For particulars address Paul Eberding, 1246 Kaighn's Avenue.

Branch No. 3 (German) Newark, meets every third Saturday, at International 1 Hall, 7 Bedford St. Haus Harkise, Secretary, 7 Bedford St.

Branch No. 4 (German), Paterson, N. J., meets first and third Mondays at 8 p. m. at Heiveta Hall, 54-56 Van Houten St. Karl Lander, Secretary, 246 Edmund St.

## NEW YORK

The City Central Agitation Committee of Greater New York, meets every second Sunday at 412 11th street, Willsdorf Hall. James Allman, Secretary, 32 Suffolk, cor. of "Forward."

Branch No. 1, New York, meets every first and third Thursday at 112 Clinton St. A. Guyer, Secretary, 143 Suffolk St.

Branch No. 3, 24th Assembly District, meets second and fourth Wednesdays of the month at 1059 Second Ave., at the "Central." Henry Lang, Secretary, 324 E. 60th St.

Branch No. 4, West Side Branch, New York, meets second and fourth Tuesdays of every month in headquarters, 189 W. 99th St. Elliasboth H. Thomas, Secretary.

Branch No. 5, Bronx, New York, meets every Saturday at 8 p. m. at 166 Moore St. Visitors welcome. Comrades desiring to organize should communicate with Secretary Sol. Pressman, 190 Bowling St.

Branch No. 11, New York, meets every Friday, at 8 p. m. at 209 E. Broadway. Lectures and discussions. Public invited. Organizer, J. Williams, 56 Henry st.; Secretary, Aaron N. Sidel, 210 (1) Union st.

## OHIO

Branch No. 2, Cleveland, meets in Ohlsen's Hall, 65 York St., second and fourth Sundays at 2 p. m. Lectures, discussions, business meetings, first and third Fridays at 8 p. m.

Branch No. 3, Cleveland, meets first and third Sundays in each month at 8 p. m. in Ohlsen's Hall, 65 York St. Lectures and discussions.

Branch No. 4, Cincinnati, meets at Kelleher Hall, southeast corner 9th and Main Sts., every Sunday at 2 p. m. Lectures and discussions. Public invited. Jas. Jasie, Secretary, 149 Central Avenue.

Branch No. 5, Dayton, Ohio, meets every 2d and 4th Friday evening, in Hall 27, at 2nd and 3rd Sts. Black. Everyone interested in Socialism invited. J. C. Schaw, Chairman, W. Harringer, Secretary, P. O. Box 100.

Branch No. 8, Cincinnati, meets every second and fourth Saturday in Workmen's Hall, 1311 Walnut St. F. Hanel, Secretary, 1804 Fritz St.

Branch No. 11, German, Cincinnati, Ed Greiner, Secretary, 806 Midway St.

## PENNSYLVANIA

Branch No. 2, Erie, meets every Sunday, 3 p. m., at K. of C. Hall, 116 State St. Chairman, Joseph Stain, Secretary, J. E. Perry, 119 Sassafras St.

Branch No. 4, Pittsburgh, meets every Thursday evening at 7:30 p. m. at Funk Hall, 244 and 246 and 248, N. High St. Fredrick, 244 Ad. Alldison St. J. H. Lewis, Secretary, 215 June St.

Branch No. 4, Connersville, meets every second and last Wednesday of each month in K. of C. Hall, Chas. Krieger, Chairman, C. H. Mur-er, Secretary, 100 Columbia St., Connersville.

Branch No. 5, Philadelphia, meets first Friday of each month—Executive meets every Sunday morning at S. D. P. Rooms at 423 E. Third St. Organizer, M. Gills, 400 S. 12th St.

Branch No. 5, Williamsport, meets every Sunday at 2 p. m. in 89 1/2 Labor hall, No. 16 East 31 St. G. L. Smith, Chairman; Jno. Lynch, Secretary, 43 Second St. Public invited.

## WASHINGTON

Branch No. 5, Tacoma, meets every Monday evening at 8 p. m. at 114 11th Street.

## WISCONSIN

Milwaukee Central Committee, S. D. P., meets second and fourth Monday of the month at 11 Wenzel's Hall, southeast corner Fourth and Chestnut st.

Branch No. 1, Milwaukee, meets at Keller's Hall, Fourth Street, between State and Prairie, every second and fourth Thursday evening.

Branch No. 2, Milwaukee, meets every second and fourth Friday in Geatke's Hall, corner Green Bay and Concordia Ave.

Branch No. 3, Sheboygan, meets every fourth Thursday of the month at Gustav Burgard's Hall on Pennsylvania Ave. R. Schoen, Secretary, Third Street, S. 12th St.



## INDIANA STATE CONVENTION

Allegiance Declared to the Social Democratic Party and Full State Ticket Nominated.

Governor of State,  
JOHN W. KELLY, Marion.  
Lieutenant-Governor,  
JOHN A. LOYD, Columbus.  
Secretary of State,  
ED. H. EVINGER, Terre Haute.  
Auditor of State,  
WM. CROKE, Marion.  
Treasurer of State,  
C. A. HULSMAN, Indianapolis.  
Attorney General,  
C. A. THORNTON, Indianapolis.  
Reporter Supreme Court,  
— FEASIEUR, Alexandria.  
State Statistician,  
WM. EHRENHARDT, Terre Haute.  
Superintendent of Public Instruction,  
M. A. THORNDYKE, Marion.  
Presidential Electors,  
EDWARD MYERS, Marion.  
JUDSON O'NEAL, Terre Haute.  
JOHN HUNDERMARK, Marion.  
CARNELIUS VAN STREIN, Muncie.  
B. G. SPENCER, Versailles.  
J. C. SUTHEPLAND, Evansville.  
J. A. M'KEEN, Marion.  
NEWTON HUFFINES, Evansville.  
JOHN P. KIRKHAM, Sullivan.  
HARRY W. CRIPPS, Evansville.  
JOHN P. THORNDYKE, Marion.  
HUGO MILLER, Indianapolis.  
JOHN A. SEVIER, Alexandria.  
Electors-at-Large,  
HERMAN STUEMPFLE,  
Terre Haute.  
W. A. KLAZER, Evansville.

Indiana Social Democrats held their first state convention on July 4 at Reichwein's hall, Indianapolis. A full state ticket was chosen, mostly composed of workingmen. The usual display of pomp, glory and tre that always characterize other political conventions was conspicuous by its absence, and in its place was a cool, clear-headed body of men with determination stamped on their features, which was a source of inspiration to the delegates and unattached Socialists who attended the convention.

The convention was called to order by Sylvester Kelliher of Indianapolis, who gave a brief review of past and present progress in the party and a forecast of the future triumphs and victories which it hopes to achieve. The convention then got down to business by electing a committee on credentials and one on rules, after which a recess was taken until the committees were ready to report. The report of the committee on credentials showed that twenty delegates were present, representing Indianapolis, Evansville, Marion, Terre Haute and Columbus, and unattached Socialists were present from Elwood, Muncie and Alexandria and several other points. The reports of the committees were then adopted, after which Ed. H. Evinger of Terre Haute was elected permanent chairman and Charles Thornton of Indianapolis, secretary. The following committees were then elected:

Resolutions and Platform—James O'Neal of Terre Haute; Sylvester Kelliher and R. Grueling of Indianapolis.  
Permanent Organization—John W. Kelly of Marion, Thomas Catton and Hugo Miller of Indianapolis.  
Nominations—A. H. Rowley, Columbus; J. W. Rumer, Evansville, and John P. Thorndyke of Marion.

The convention then adjourned to meet at 2 p. m. Chairman Evinger called the convention to order at 2 o'clock. The committees on resolutions and platform reported the following resolution and platform:

We, the representatives of the Social Democratic party in state convention assembled, hereby indorse and ratify the nomination of Eugene V. Debs and Job Harriman for president and vice president of the United States and declare our allegiance to the Social Democratic party.

## PLATFORM.

The Social Democratic party of the state of Indiana, in convention assembled, reaffirm the national platform adopted at Indianapolis convention in March, 1900, and declare our uncompromising adherence to the principles of international Socialism.

We demand the enactment of a law providing for the ownership and operation by the municipalities of all lighting, heating plants and the means of transportation and communication.

We demand the direct employment of labor by state and municipalities on all public work and the employment of the unemployed on state and municipal improvements, such as good roads, public baths, etc.

We demand that adequate school facilities shall be furnished, such as sufficient school room, trained teachers, free school books, and food, clothing and shelter whenever necessary.

We demand the enactment of a law providing for the eight-hour day on all state and municipal work.

The report of the committee on permanent organization was adopted after a slight amendment. Indianapolis was chosen as the seat of the executive board for two years.

The report of the committee on nominations was adopted, and the question of the party emblem was left to the executive board with instructions to try and secure for the national emblem the

figure of hands clasped around the globe with the inscription: "Workingmen of all countries unite."

The nominee for governor, John W. Kelly of Marion, has the distinction of being the first Socialist ever elected to office in the state of Indiana. The "next governor" was called upon for a speech, and in a few well-chosen words thanked the convention for honoring him with the nomination, and said that he would go into the state campaign with the same purpose in view that prompted his acceptance of the nomination for the council of Marion, that is with the determination to win. Speeches were then heard from the various delegates, all of whom spoke in an enthusiastic strain, which showed a determination to roll up a Socialist vote that would be a surprise to the capitalist parties in this state.

## STATE ORGANIZATION.

1. The state convention shall be held every two years at such time and place as the state executive board shall determine.

2. Such state convention shall select the city where the state executive board shall be located.

3. The branches at the city elected shall elect an executive board of five members to compose the state executive board, three of whom shall constitute a quorum.

4. The executive board shall have supervision of the party organization, and shall have power to provide such rules, issue such orders and adopt such measures as may be required to carry out the objects of the organization.

5. To defray the expense of the party within the state, each branch shall contribute 5 cents from each member per month to the executive board.

6. Upon application of 5 per cent of the membership within the state, the executive board shall submit a referendum vote to the various branches upon any matter of interest to the members within said state.

## PASSING OF CAPITALISM AND MISSION OF SOCIAL DEMOCRACY

By Isador Ladoff.

Why does capitalism, like a venomous fungoid, flourish in our midst? Why did the greatest achievements of the human genius in the conquests of dead matter result in the actual return to barbarity? Simply because our philosophy of life is way behind our progress in the domain of purely material or industrial activity. Simply because the modern methods of production and distribution of wealth are by far more advanced than our ideals and conceptions about right and wrong. Our methods of economic activity are incorporating (although incompletely) the progressive principle of socialization, while our philosophy of life, our moral ideals, remain still individualistic or anarchistic.

In this incongruity, in this contradiction between our conceptions of human inter-relations on one hand and actual material conditions on the other, is concealed the center of gravity of all social problems of the day. This incongruity and contradiction is felt instinctively by everybody. Very few, however, have the clear vision of the hidden causes of those phenomena. Deep is the general unrest, broad is the general nervousness of the people, obvious are the symptoms of our social abnormalities, absurdities and crimes, but very few penetrate through the mere surface of things.

Dissatisfaction permeates every class of the people, and many are the remedies proposed and advocated by all kinds of so-called reformers whose name is legion. The middle class "reformers" of the democratic-populist stamp, those blind leaders of the blind, preach reaction, return to semi-medieval individualism, as a means to escape the perplexities of our modern industrial conditions. Their watchword is: "Backward, backward, Don Rodrigo!" Another variety of half-hearted, one-idea reformers try to concentrate all their attention on some single panacea, bound to save humanity in twenty-four hours after its inauguration. Such are the prohibitionists, single taxers, etc. All these would be saviors of humanity lack historic sense and philosophic training of mind. They are delightfully puerile in their utopian faith in the miraculous power of legislation on paper, and do not see the forest, because stubbornly insisting on looking on one tree only. They imagine themselves to be Joshuas commanding the sun of industrial evolution to stop at the Gideon of dwarfed capitalism.

The Social Democracy has another more sensible and cheering message for humanity. Its watchword is: "Forward, forward!" It recognizes the absurdity of all the attempts to turn the wheel of historical development backward, it considers as insane the advice to undo all the marvelous achievements of science applied to arts. Social Democracy is primarily an educational movement. Its task consists in teaching people to conform their philosophy of life, their social ideals and moral principles to the new industrial conditions. The economic structure of our modern society is clearly drifting towards the socialization of industry, and Social Democracy is preparing the people for this revolutionary change. The time is near when the tools of production and raw material will be turned over to the people engaged in production, when production

will be carried on not for profit, but for consumption, when socialized production will be carried on by society in the interest of society; in short, when society at large will be the master of its own economic destiny. Such a revolution in economic life demands a radical revision and readjustment of our moral conceptions; it demands a clear vision of the drift of our time and a great deal of enthusiasm in the cause of human welfare. This clearness of vision, this enthusiasm and the gospel of a new system of ethics Social Democracy brings to the people.

The passing capitalistic era with its profit system, with its zoological system of competition, with its eternal fluctuations between supply and demand, with its reckless speculation with human sweat and blood, with its brutal degradation of manhood and womanhood, with its flagrant injustice and absurdities, did not fall from heaven (or, rather, hell) into a community of innocent and reasoning beings. Capitalism is the product of our own irrationality and perverted sense of right or wrong. Capitalism is passing in the measure as we are outgrowing it morally and mentally. The mission of Social Democracy is to help and hasten our mental and moral growth into a higher, better, nobler social system. Social Democracy stands on firm historical ground. It takes up the work just where it was left by the middle class French revolution. Times proved the futility of political without economic freedom and equality. Events proved that freedom and equality in the purely political sense of these terms are mere worthless abstractions, a snare and delusion for the proletariat. Social Democracy demands economic democracy, economic liberty and equality as the only real democracy, liberty and equality worth striving for.

"Well, all that is certainly very nice and sounds well; but is it possible to change human nature so as to make men live like loving brothers?" is the usual skeptic objection of wise practical men to all social democratic arguments. This objection is by no means new. The wise and practical man-eater certainly did object to the radical reformer, who first suggested that it would be preferable to enslave the prisoners of war to catering them up in the same way. "It would be indeed very nice, but our fathers and forefathers did eat their war prisoners. You cannot change human nature." And yet centuries passed and slavery formed the under structure of great civilizations, like the Hellenic and Roman empires. The wise slave-owner argued in the same strain with the abolitionist, and yet the shackles fell from the limbs of a race whose only crime consisted in the pigment of its skin. Is it necessary to meet the objection of our wise and practical anti-socialists? It would be too tedious.

The middle class, the most typical representatives of which is the capitalists, was not always as conservative, nay, sometimes reactionary as it appears at present. By far not. The absolute power of the kings and emperors of Europe, owing to which the so-called nobility and clergy occupied the most privileged position in the said hierarchy, was a thorn in the flesh of the middle class. The middle class was the carrier of the noble ideals of (political) freedom, equality and (do not laugh, dear reader!) brotherhood. It was at the time of the French revolution representing the advanced guard of humanity. It fought nobly and conquered (with the aid of proletarian blood, of course). This accomplished the middle class hastened to forget its revolutionary traditions and for obvious reasons. As long as their class interests coincided, or seemed to coincide, with the interests of the human race—the human cause was their cause and no further. Indeed political freedom proved to be an excellent thing without its economic counterpart for the valiant possessor of the valuable, as Ruskin aptly defined rich people. Who enjoyed economic freedom because he is valiant can use political freedom as a means to get advantage over his less valiant fellow-citizens as we witness it in Switzerland, France and the United States. The government of so-called free countries is just as easily run in the interests of a plutocracy as a monarchy in the interests of an aristocracy. The proletarian is left to his fate. He is doomed to be dependent on his only possession—his labor power as a ware on the market. All the insecurity, the fluctuations of supply and demand, competition and other beauties connected with the mercantile system are burdening the broad shoulders of the dispossessed class of the people. The interests of this class are at present identical with the interests of the human race. This class is, therefore, naturally the carrier of the highest ideals of the age, is the advance guard of humanity struggling for its emancipation. Social Democracy is the mouthpiece of this struggle, its interpreter, its advocate and leader. Social Democracy has to train the army of the proletarian class and to lead it against the hosts of capitalism.

The elections for the senate have taken place in Belgium, and the clerical majority is now fourteen, instead of thirty-eight in the previous assembly. There are now four Socialists instead of one.

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## THE PLATFORM

The Social Democratic Party of America declares that life, liberty and happiness depend upon equal political and economic rights. In our economic development an industrial revolution has taken place, the individual tool of former years having become the social tool of the present. The individual tool was owned by the worker who employed himself and was master of his product. The social tool, the machine, is owned by the capitalist and the worker is dependent upon him for employment. The capitalist thus becomes the master of the worker and is able to appropriate to himself a large share of the product of his labor.

Capitalism, the private ownership of the means of production, is responsible for the insecurity of subsistence, the poverty, misery and degradation of the ever-growing majority of our people; but the same economic forces which have produced and now intensify the capitalist system will necessitate the adoption of Socialism, the collective ownership of the means of production for the common good and welfare.

The present system of social production and private ownership is rapidly converting society into two antagonistic classes—i. e., the capitalist class and the propertyless class. The middle class, once the most powerful of this great nation, is disappearing in the mill of competition. The issue is now between the two classes first named. Our political liberty is now of little value in the masses unless used to acquire economic liberty.

Independent political action and the trade union movement are the chief emancipating factors of the working class, the one representing its political, the other its economic wing, and both must co-operate to abolish the capitalist system.

Therefore the Social Democratic Party of America declares its object to be:

First—The organization of the working class into a political party to conquer the public powers now controlled by capitalists.

Second—The abolition of wage-slavery by the establishment of a national system of co-operative industry, based upon the social or common ownership of the means of production and distribution, to be administered by society in the common interest of all its members, and the complete emancipation of the socially useful classes from the domination of capitalism.

The working class and all those in sympathy with their historic mission to realize a higher civilization should sever connection with all capitalist and reform parties and unite with the Social Democratic Party of America. The control of political power by the Social Democratic party will be tantamount to the abolition of all class rule.

The solidarity of labor connecting the millions of class-conscious fellow-workers throughout the civilized world will lead to international Socialism, the brotherhood of man.

As steps in that direction, we make the following demands:

First—Revision of our federal constitution, in order to remove the obstacles to complete control of government by the people irrespective of sex.

Second—The public ownership of all industries controlled by monopolies, trusts and combines.

Third—The public ownership of all railroads, telegraphs and telephones; all means of transportation, and communication; all water-works, gas and electric plants, and other public utilities.

Fourth—The public ownership of all gold, silver, copper, lead, iron, coal, and other mines, and all oil and gas wells.

Fifth—The reduction of the hours of labor in proportion to the increasing facilities of production.

Sixth—The inauguration of a system of public works and improvements for the employment of the unemployed, the public credit to be utilized for that purpose.

Seventh—Useful inventions to be free, the inventor to be remunerated by the public.

Eighth—Labor legislation to be national, instead of local, and international when possible.

Ninth—National insurance of working people against accidents, lack of employment and want in old age.

Tenth—Equal civil and political rights, for men and women, and the abolition of all laws discriminating against women.

Eleventh—The adoption of the initiative and referendum, proportional representation, and the right of recall of representatives by the voters.

Twelfth—Abolition of war and the introduction of international arbitration.

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